

Coast canal walls fall into disrepair

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Decaying waterfront walls are ticking time bombs, according to Gold Coast City Council lawyers.

There are growing reports of revetment wall failure and concerns about the risk of storm damage from poorly-secured jetties and pontoons.

Waterfront living could become a liability if laws regulating the repair of privately-owned revetment walls is passed.

The city has more than 400km of revetment walls, which experts say should be replaced every 30 years.

Those with a medium-sized frontage would face a bill of up to \$120,000.

Mayor Ron Clarke said recent storms had highlighted the need for tighter control of privately-owned revetment walls, jetties and pontoons.

The proposed local law would allow the council to enter private property to conduct emergency repairs or remove tumble-down waterfront infrastructure.

The repair bill would be charged to the landowner on threat of prosecution.